



# Multimessenger Signatures of Intermediate Mass Black Holes

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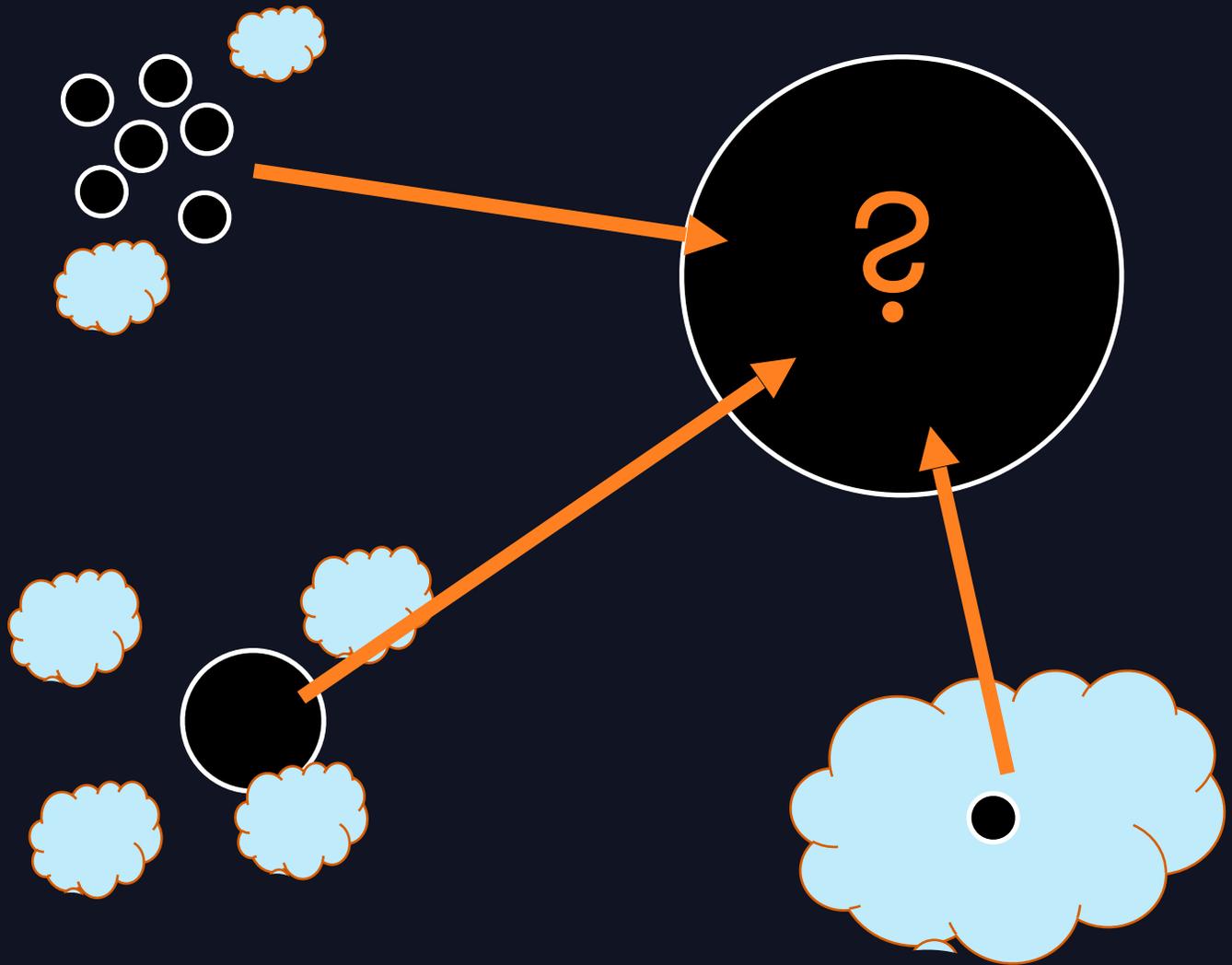
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American Museum of Natural History

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# How do you build a SMBH?

Problem: SMBHs have erased their seed history



# IMBHs in dwarf galaxies

- How do they get there?  
And when?
- Are they the seeds to  
SMBHs in massive galaxies?



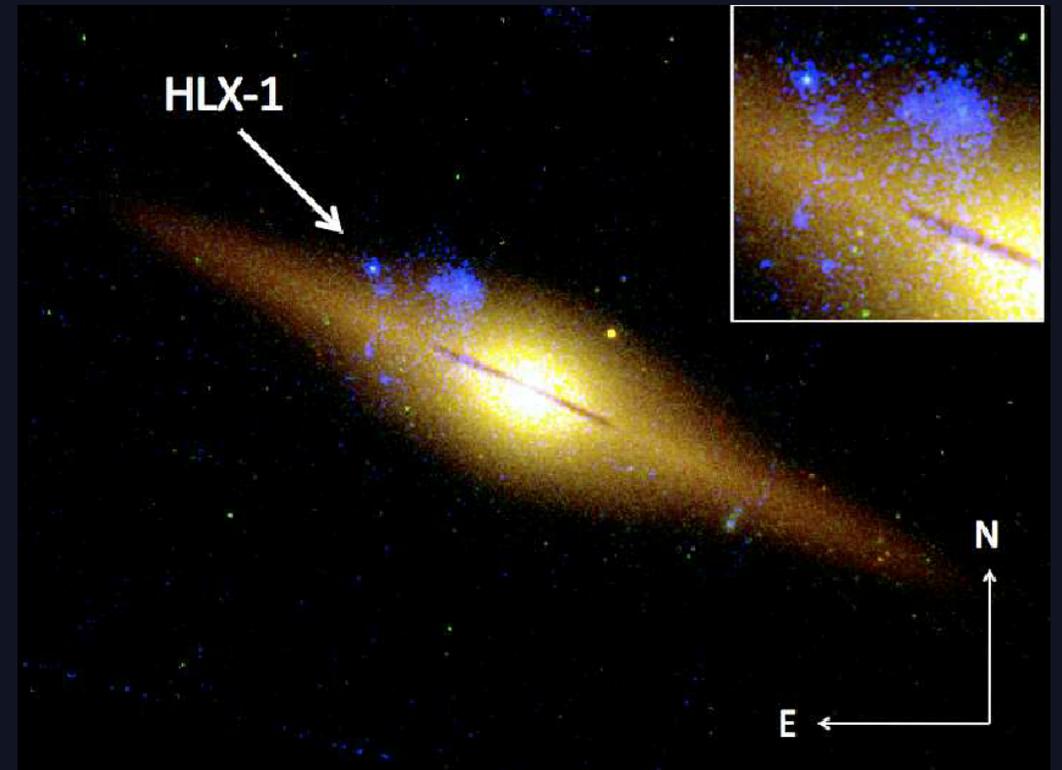
# Two places to look:

Dwarf Galaxy AGN



RGG 118, Baldassare+ 17

Off-nuclear / halo sources



HLX-1, Mapelli+ 13

# Tool: Cosmological Simulations

- code: ChaNGa
- Four zoom-in dwarf volumes  
“Marvel-ous Dwarfs”
- Four zoom-in MW-like simulations, including copious dwarf satellites  
“DC Justice League”

Elektra



Captain Marvel



Rogue



Storm



Sandra



Ruth

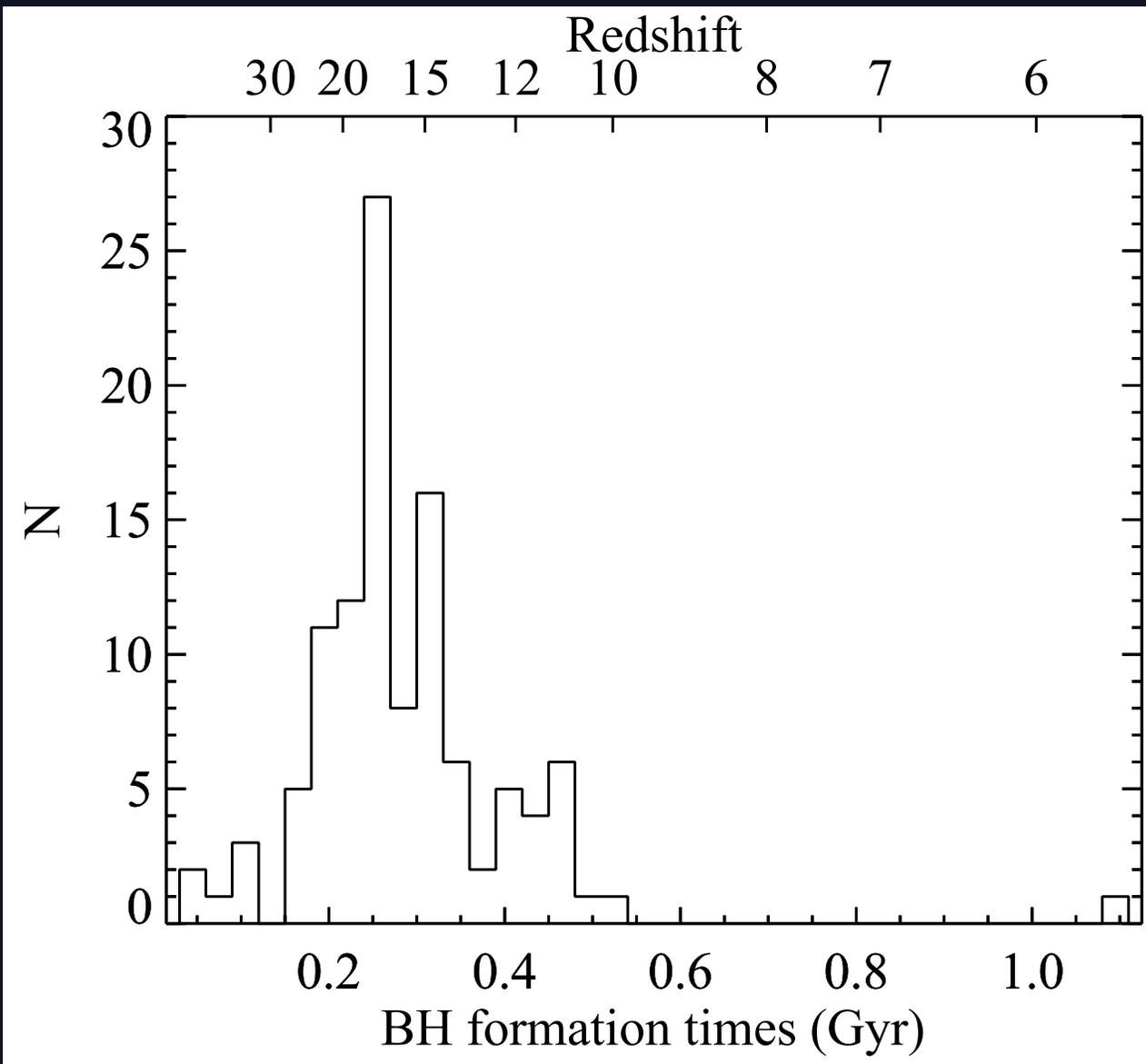


Sonia



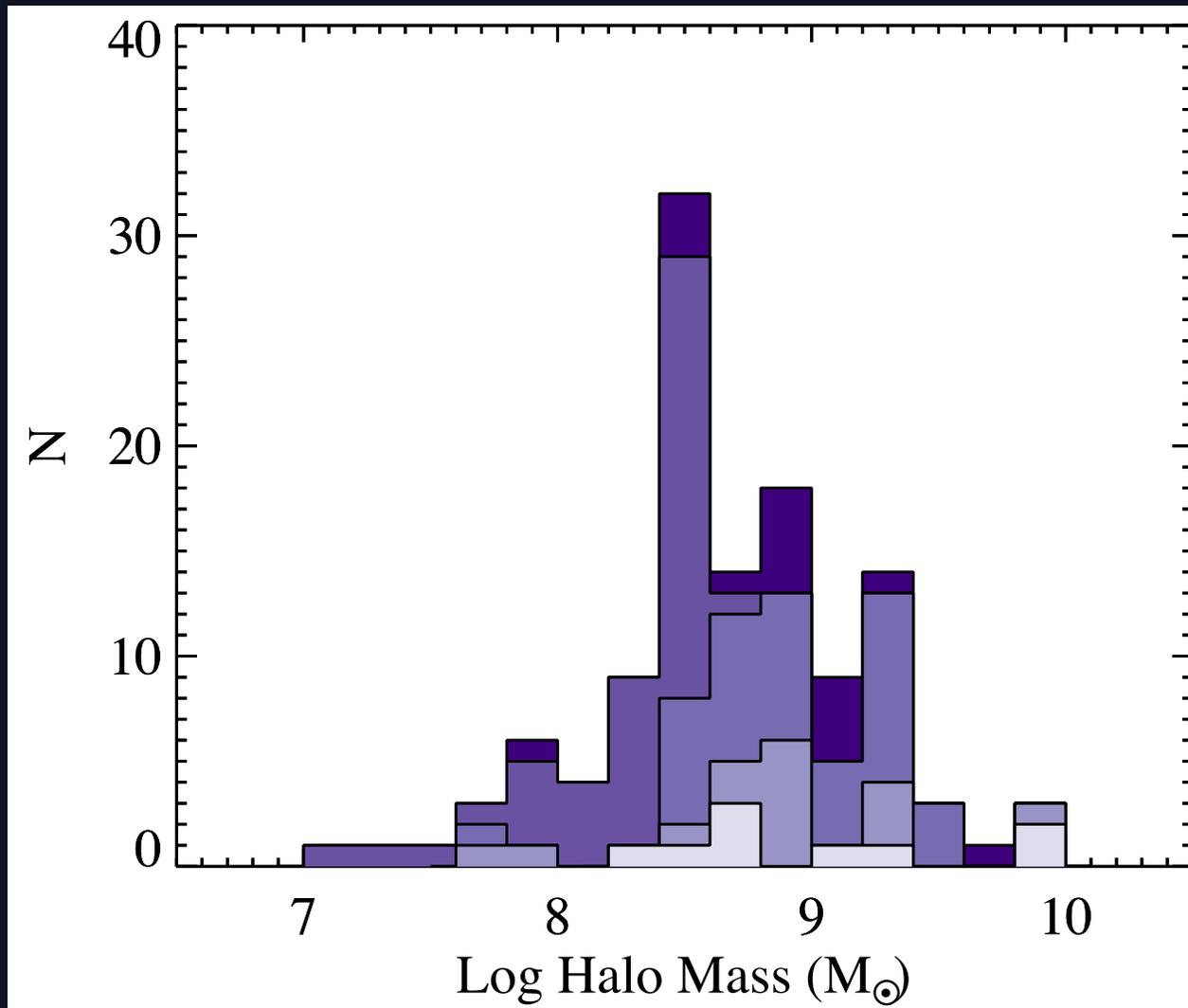
Elena

# Seed BH Formation History



Peak of  
seed  
formation is  
 $z \sim 10 - 20$

# Halo mass at time of BH formation

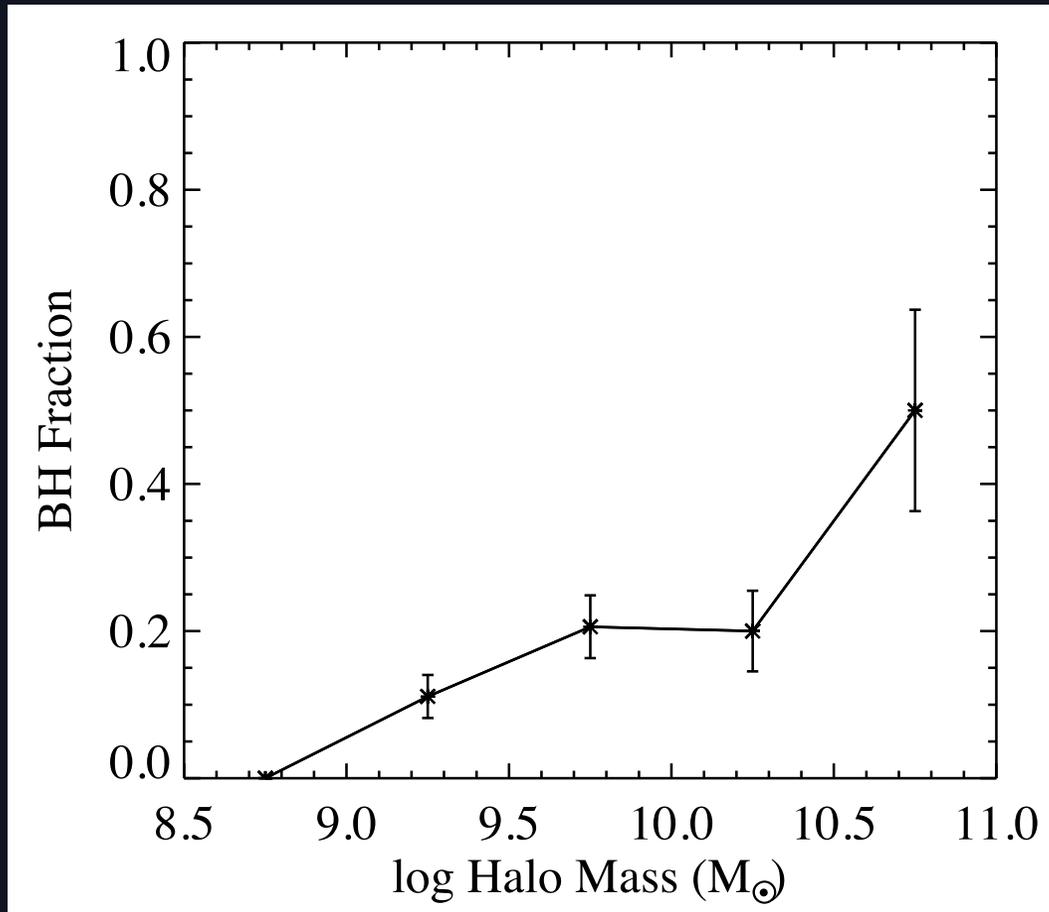


BHs form in  
halos with  
total mass of  
 $10^{8-9} M_{\odot}$

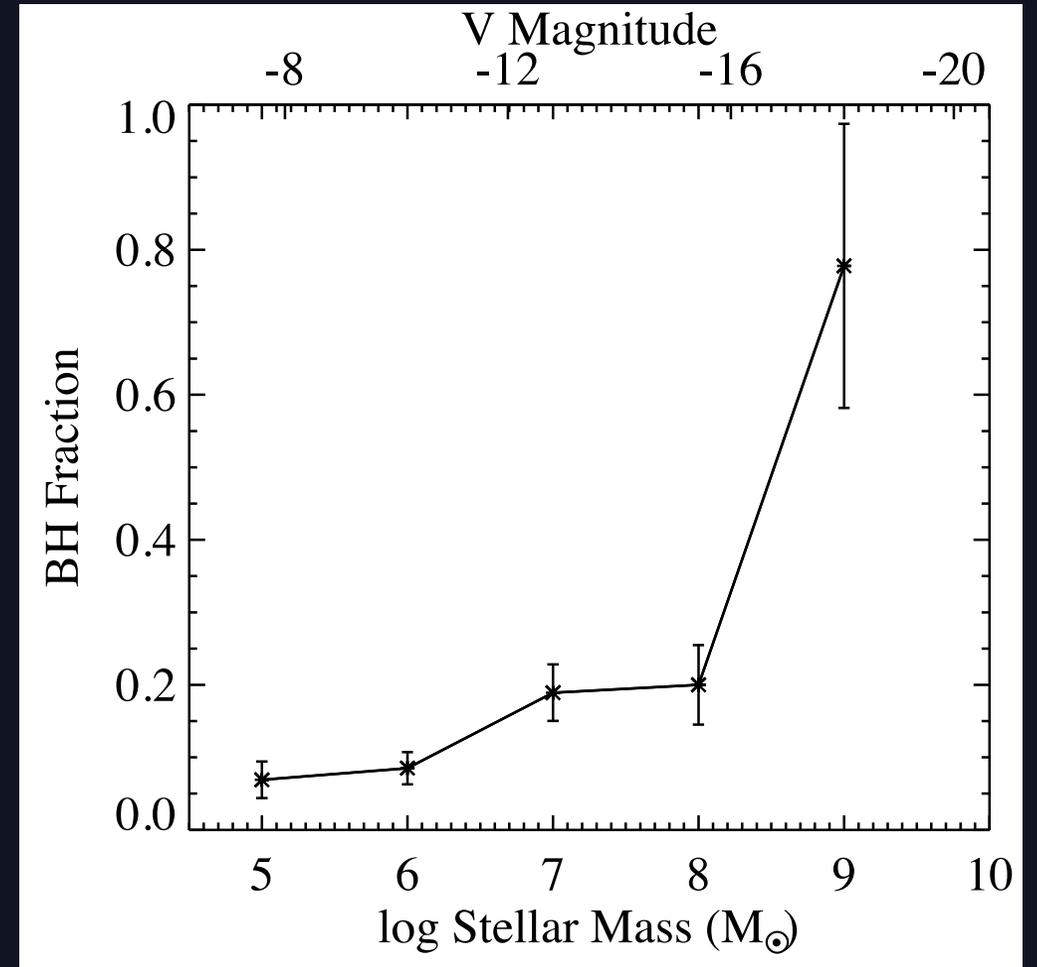
These are  
small!

# Occupation Fraction at $z = 0$

Total (halo) Mass

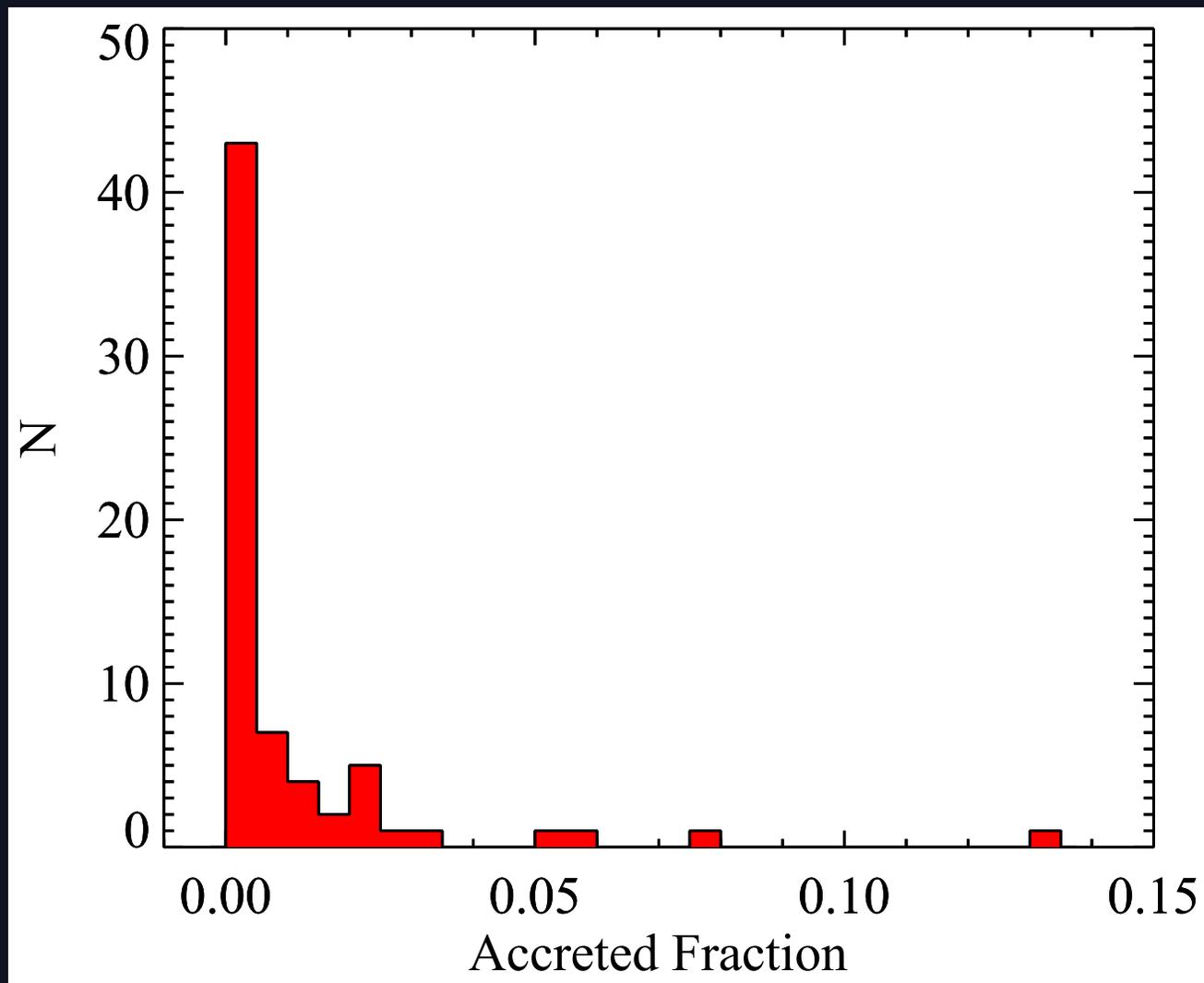


Stellar Mass



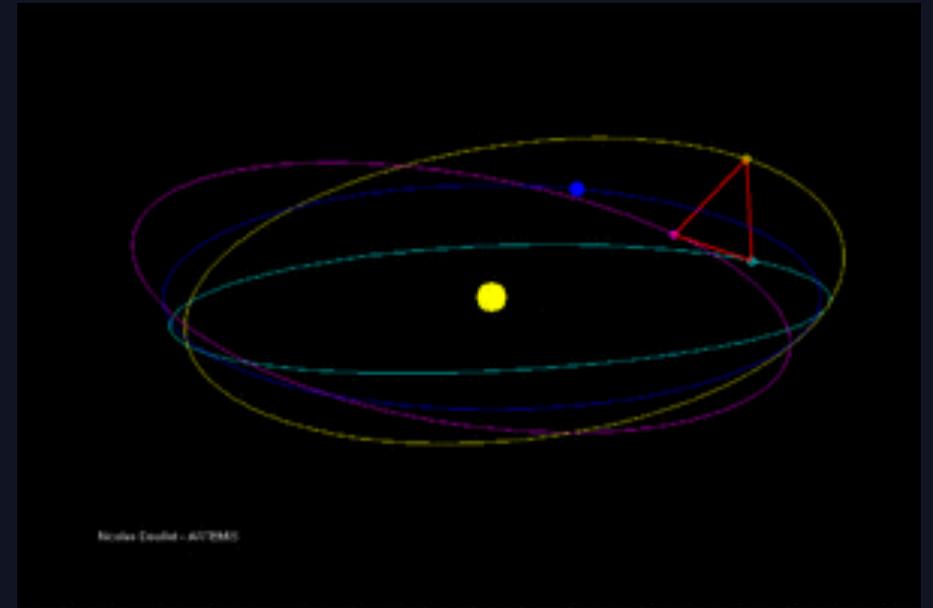
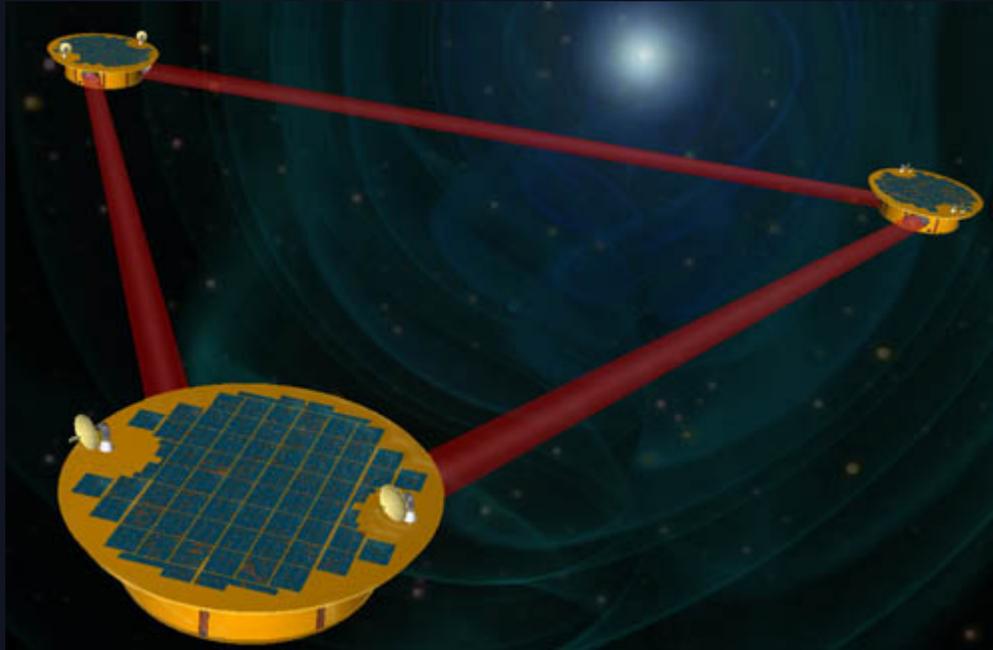
# Dwarf BHs do not accrete much

- Fraction of accreted gas mass / total mass
- Dwarf galaxies hosting MBHs give clues to original seed BH masses

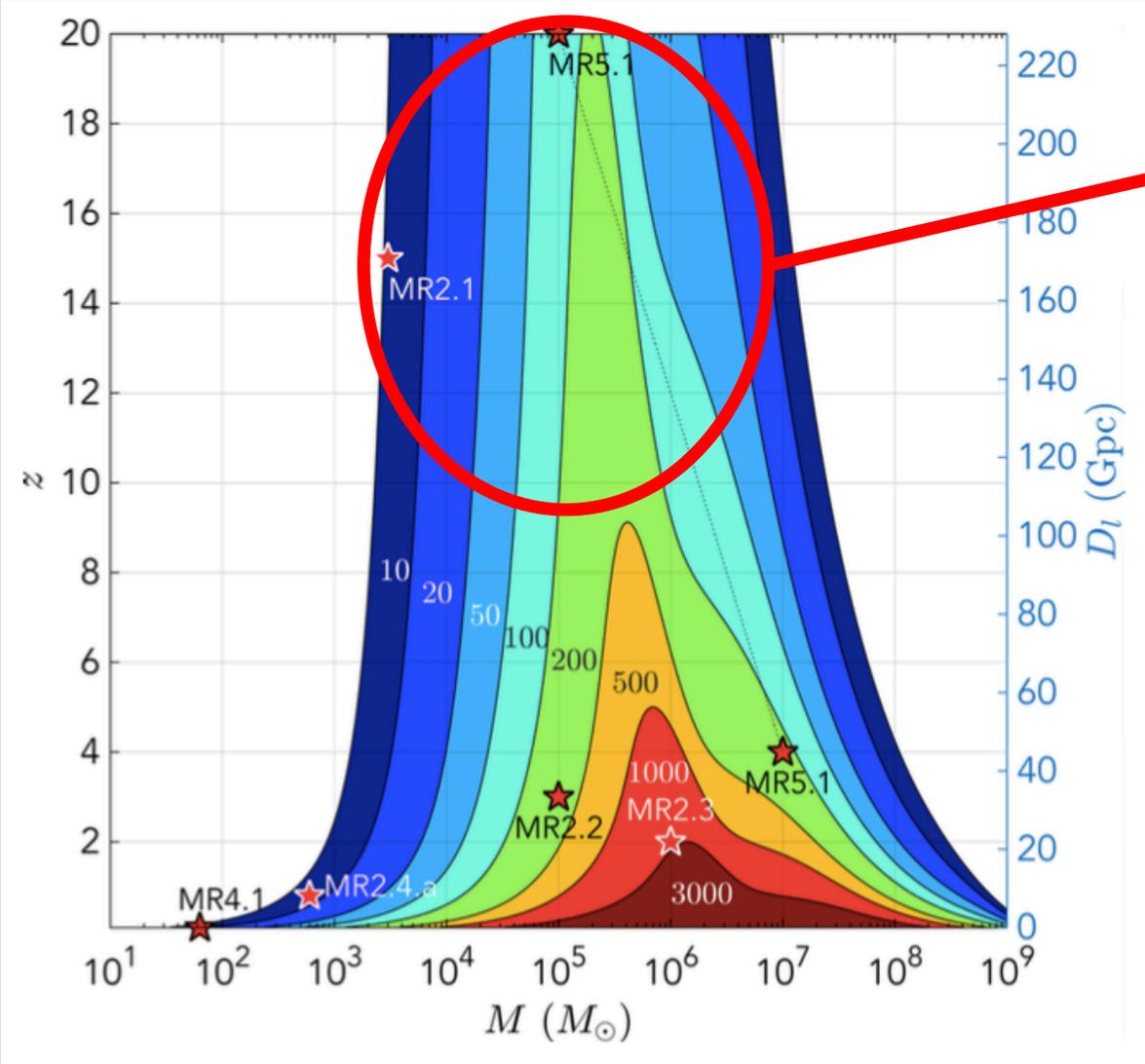


# IMBHs merge! Gravitational Waves!

LISA! The Laser Interferometer Space Antenna

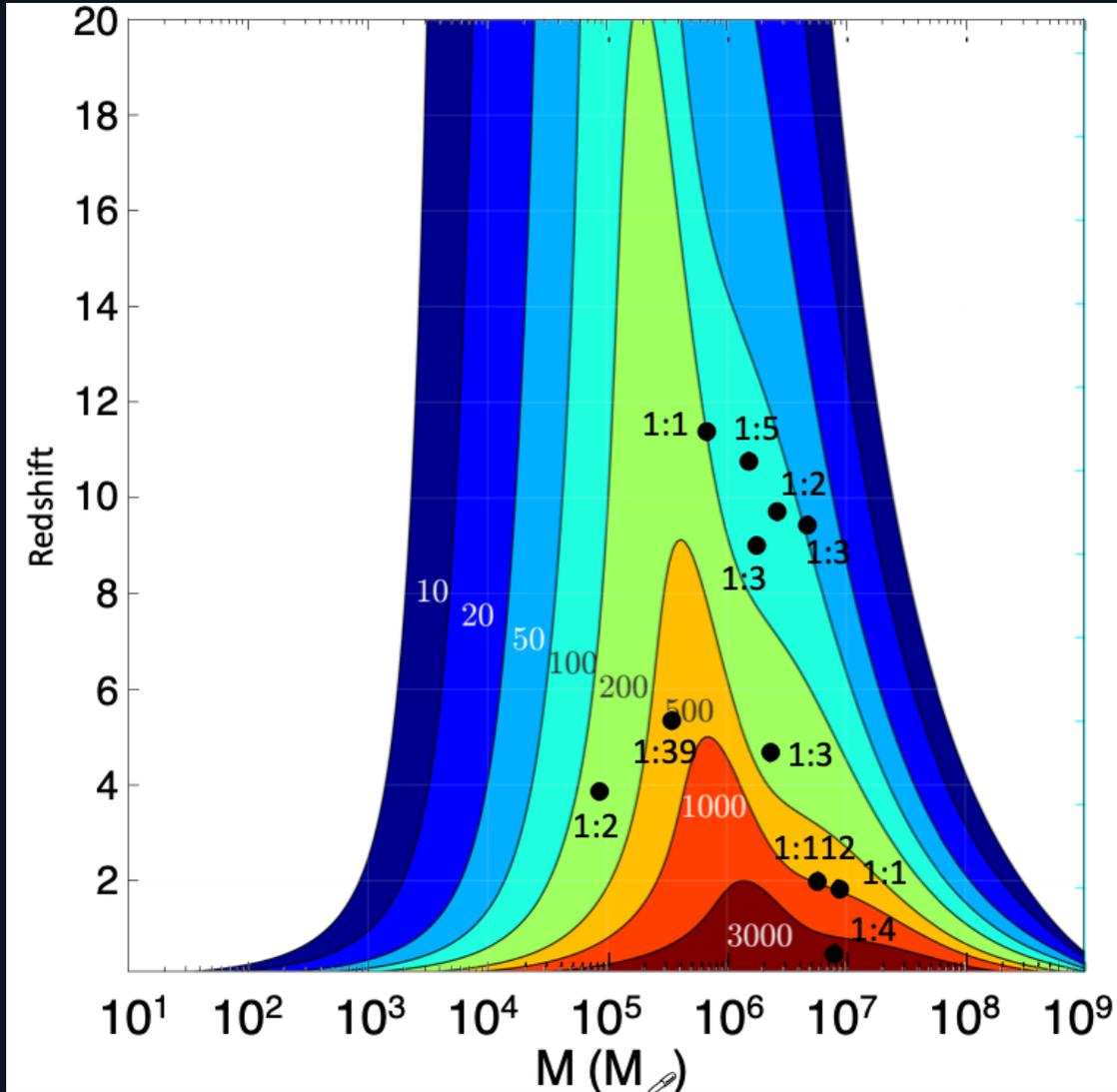


# What will LISA find?



Intermediate  
Mass Black  
Hole mergers  
at  $10 < z < 20$

# BH mergers in dwarf galaxies

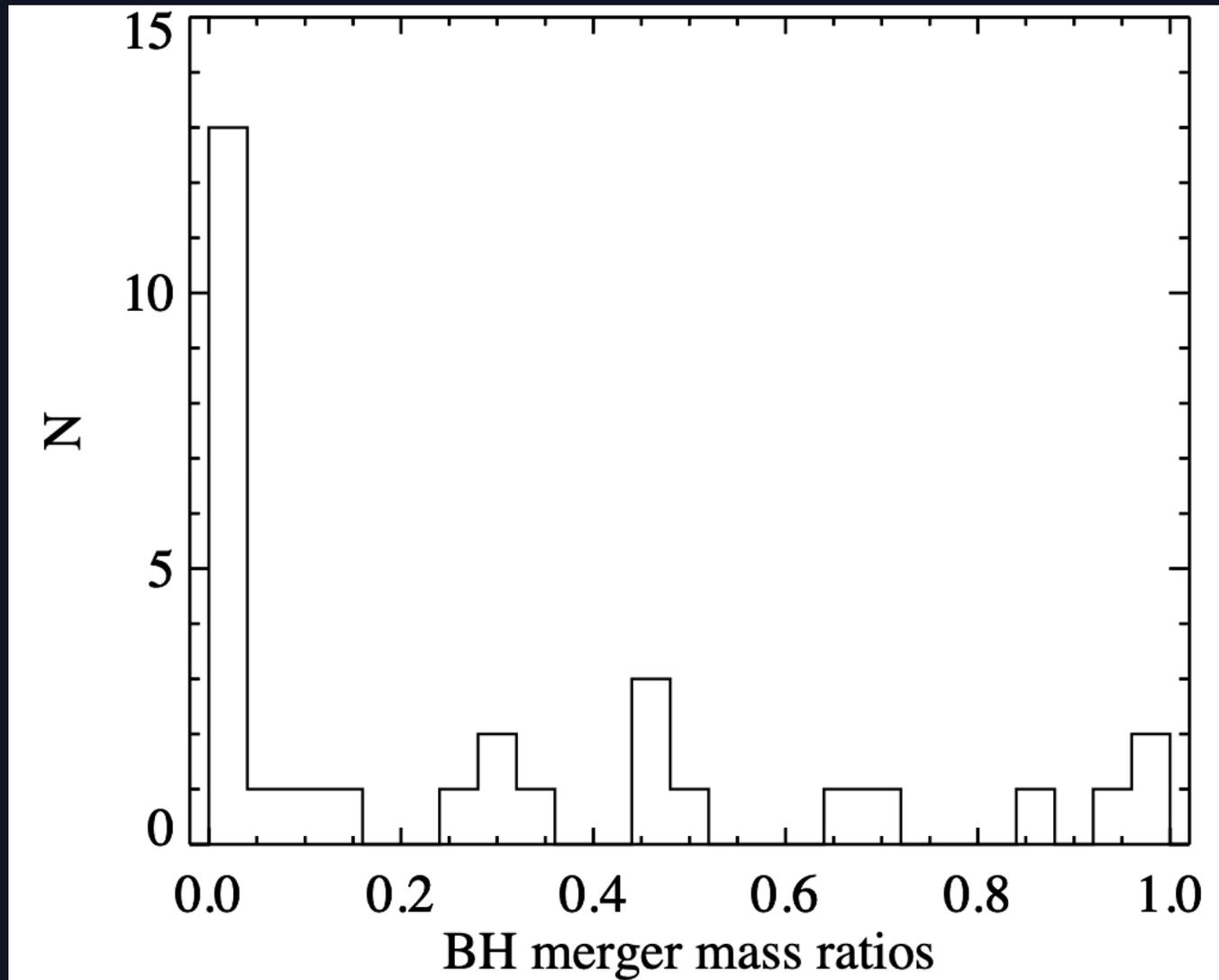


$$0 > z > 12$$

(mostly)

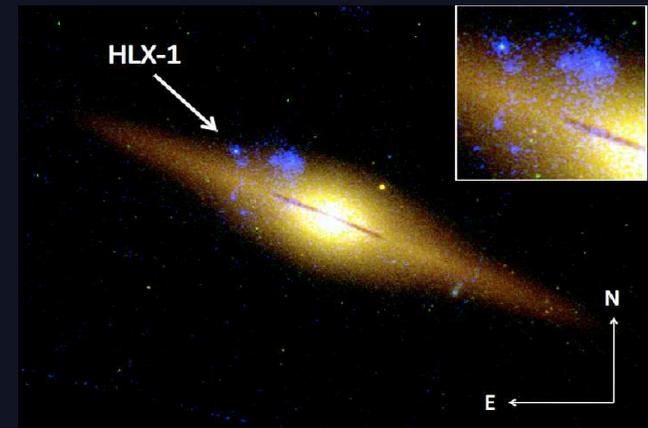
$$0.2 > q > 1$$

# Merging BHs including massive galaxies



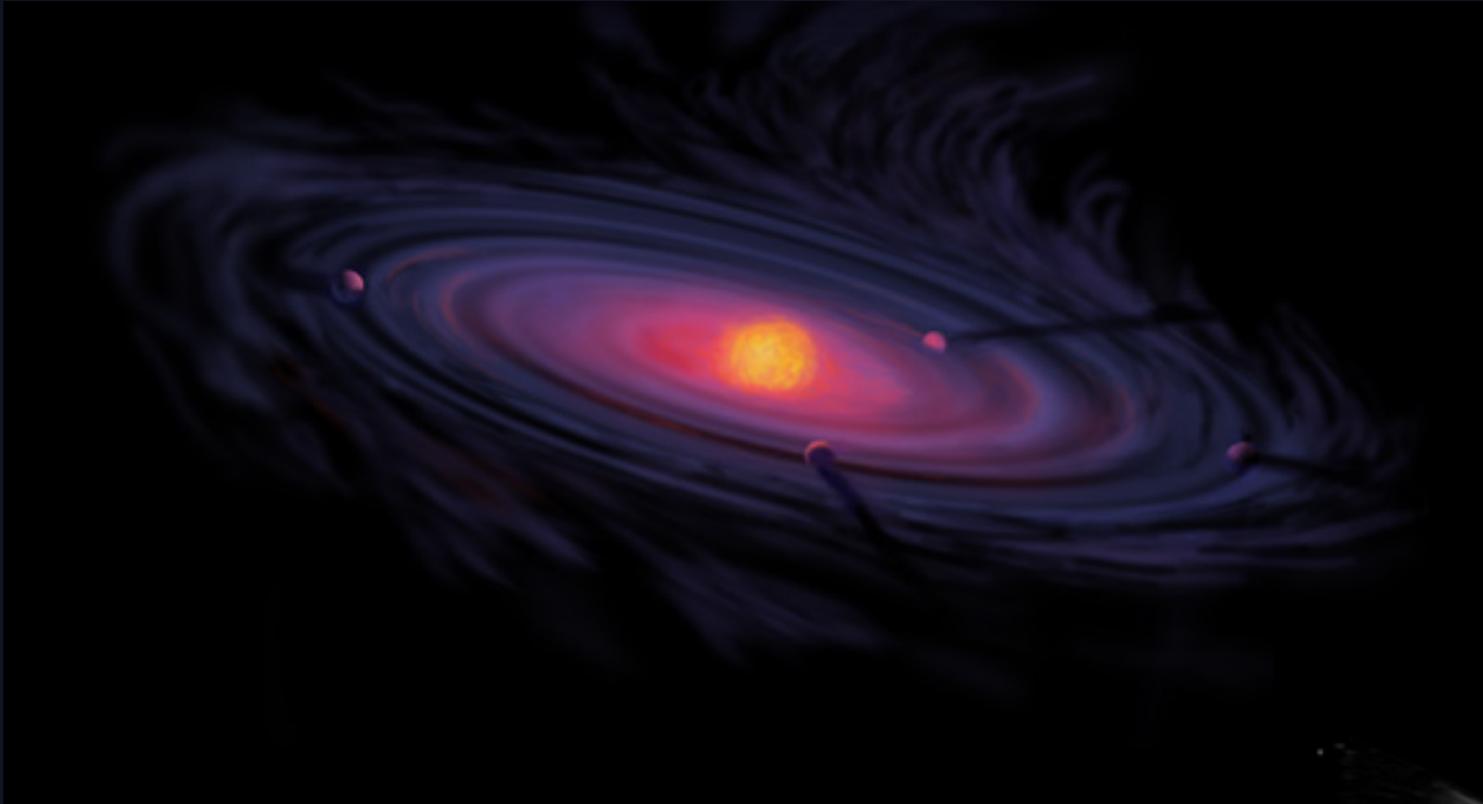
Very few mass ratios are 1:1!

Most are  $\sim 1:50$



AND NOW FOR SOMETHING  
COMPLETELY DIFFERENT

# Diversion: Let's talk about planets

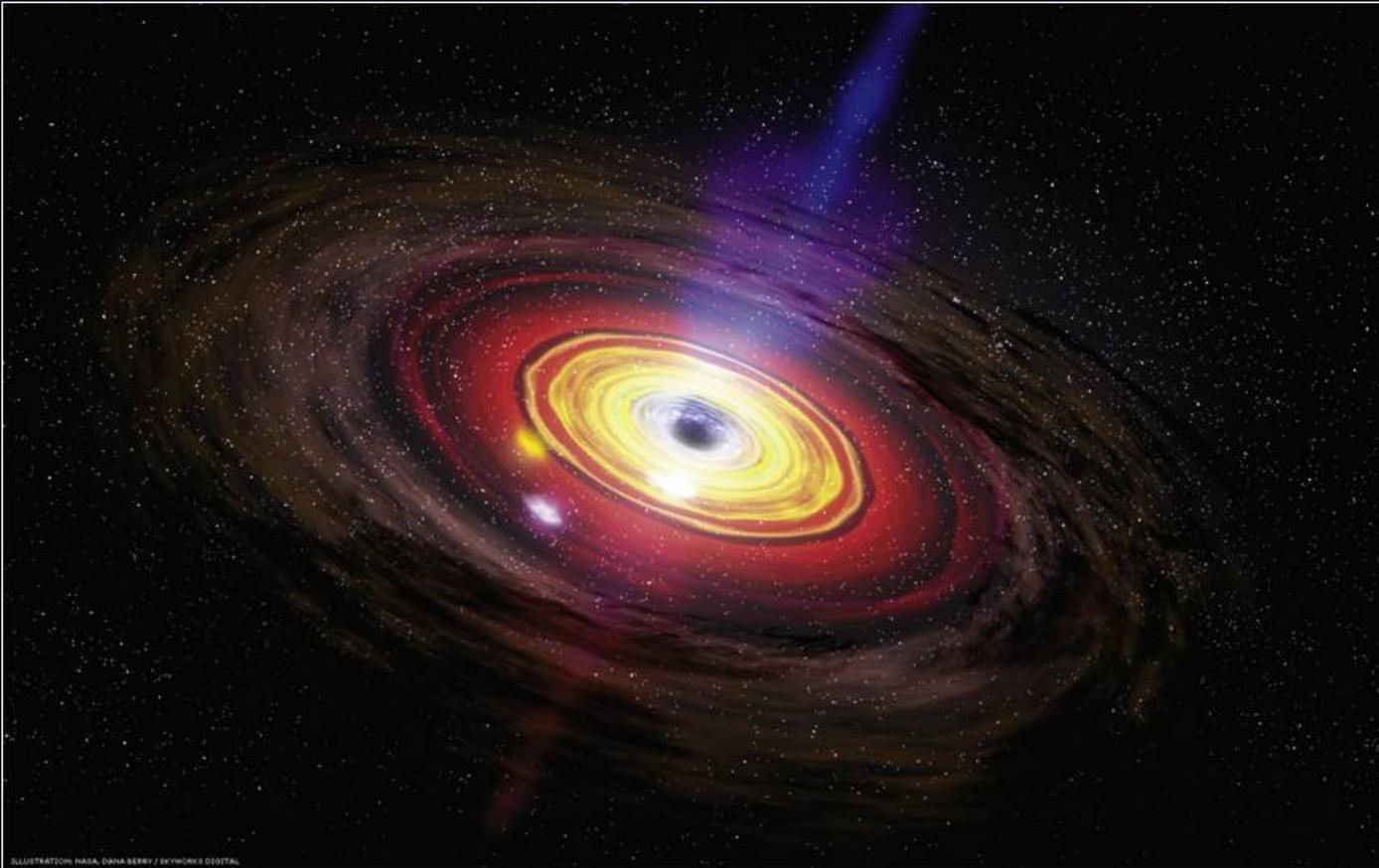


- Protoplanets migrate in the disk, depending on how they are torqued
- There are “sweet spots” where the torques balance

**MIGRATION TRAPS**



# Back to black holes, and migration traps

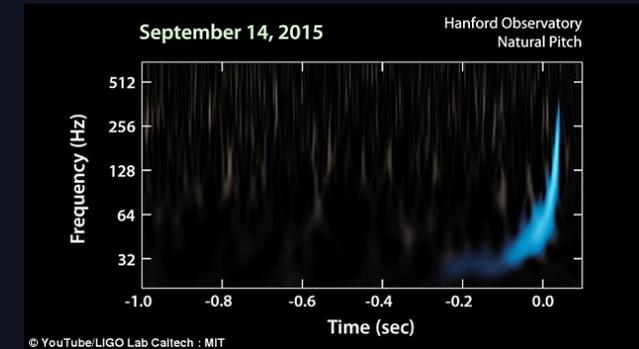


- Protoplanets → stellar mass black holes
- Protoplanetary disk → SMBH accretion disk
- Black holes can migrate too!  
→ **MIGRATION TRAPS**

Result → lots of black hole mergers, making bigger and bigger black holes?!

# Gravitational Wave Implications

- **LIGO**: Provides explanation for large masses
- **LISA**: runaway growth in disk creates an IMBH ( $10^2 - 10^3 M_{\odot}$ ), if merge with SMBH we get an EMRI/IMRI (McKernan+ 12)
- **EM Counterparts...** the AGN wins 😞 but target searches on AGN instead of galaxies for improved efficiency!) 😊



See Saavik Ford's talk on Wednesday in the MMA-SAG session

# Conclusions



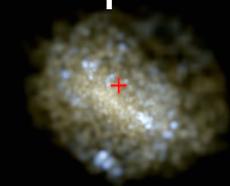
- Dwarf and wandering SMBHs can give us clues to the original seed mass



- Few SMBH mergers in low mass galaxies environments are 1:1



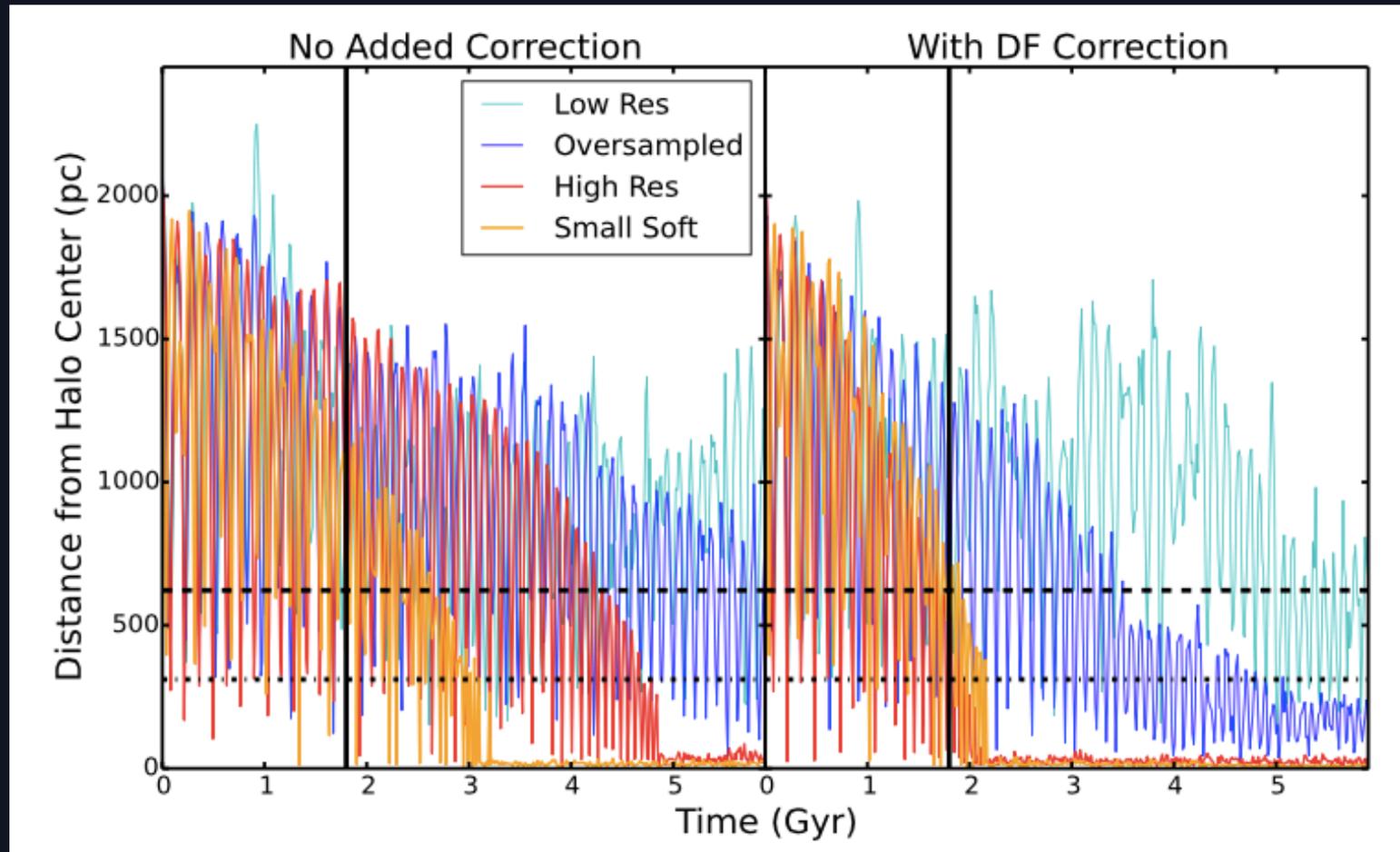
- AGN disks can also be places to seek IMBHs



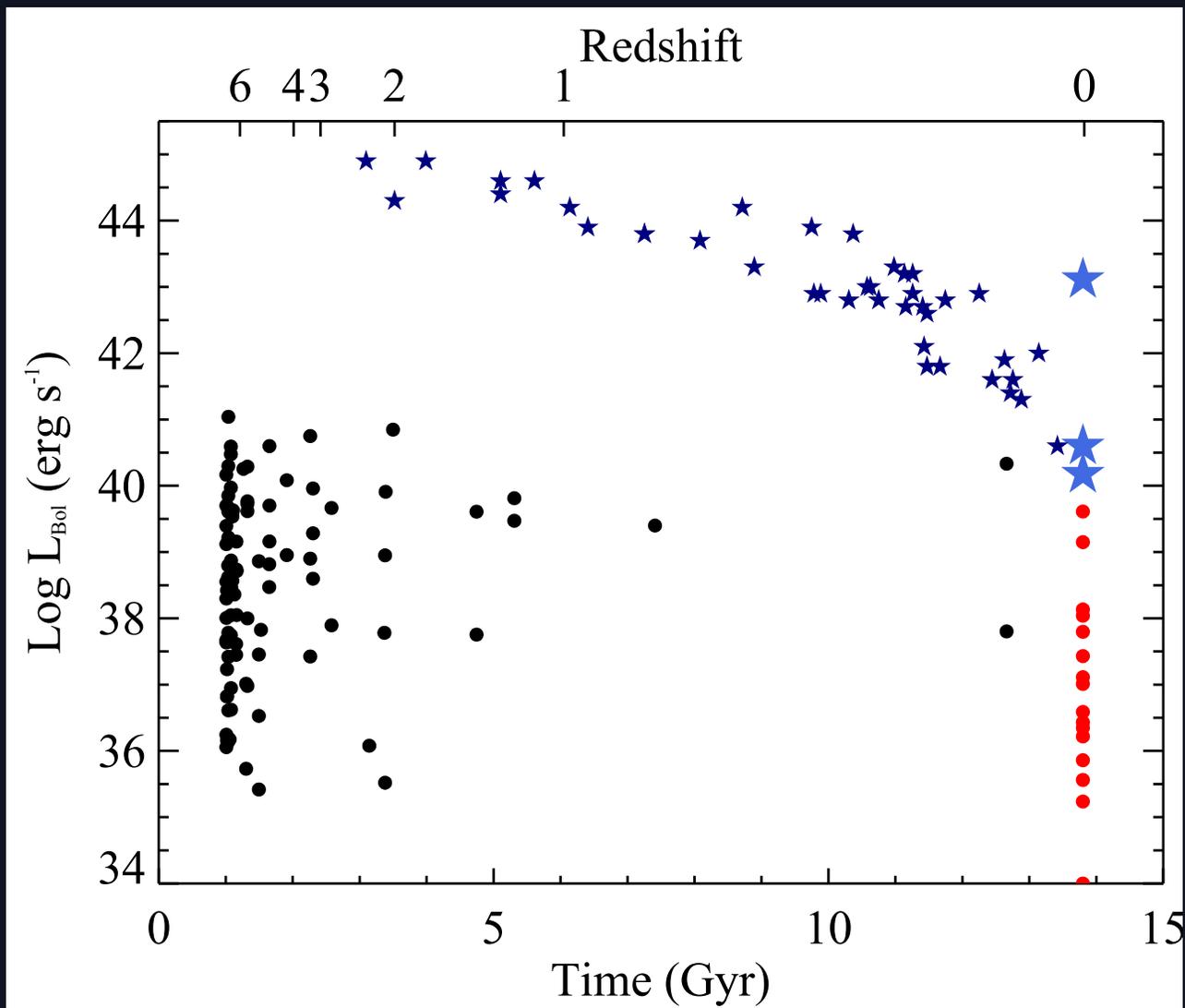
Extra slides

# BHs in Simulations

- Form at mass of 50,000  $M_{\odot}$  from dense, collapsing, low-metallicity, low- $H_2$  gas
- Dynamical friction (Tremmel+ 15)
- Accretion: modified Bondi-Hoyle
- Feedback: thermal (Tremmel+ 17)



# Low Luminosities



## Simulated Galaxies

- Maximum Luminosity reached
- $z=0$  luminosities

## Observed Galaxies

- ★ Local Dwarf AGN
- ★ High  $z$  IMBH candidates (Mezcua +18)

# Intermediate BH merger signatures

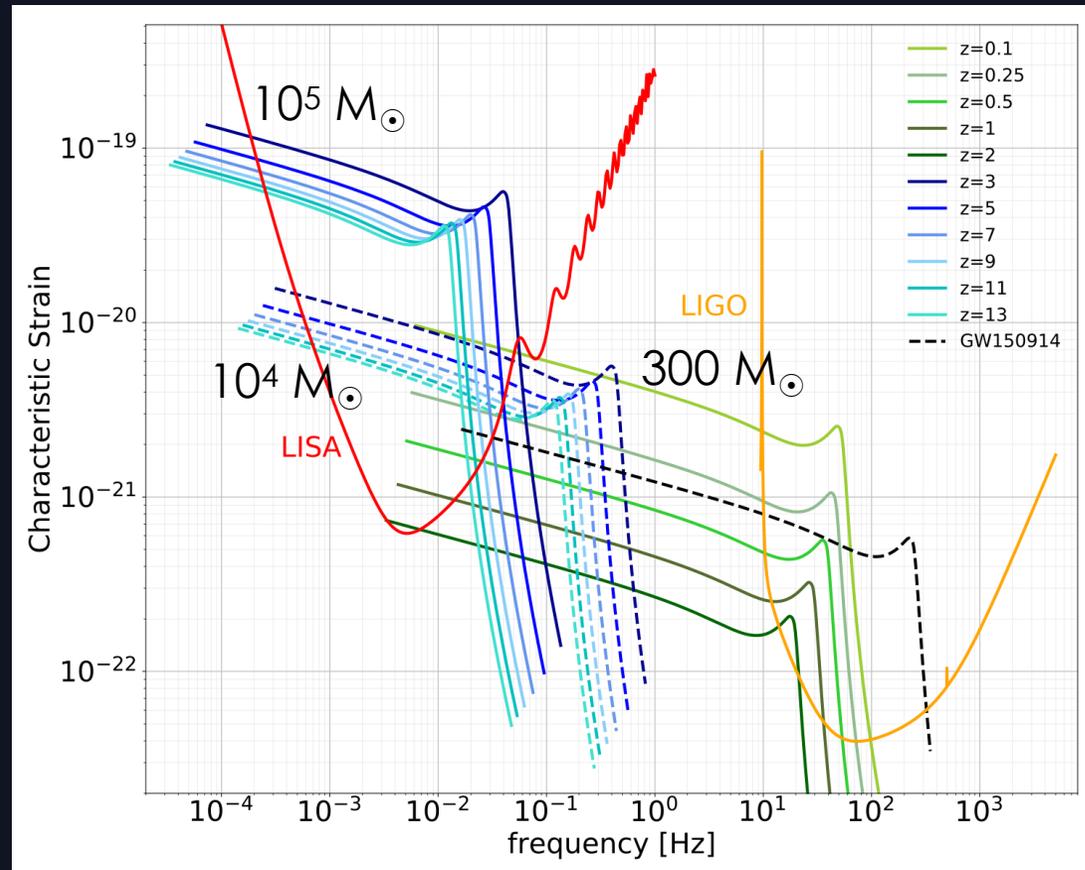
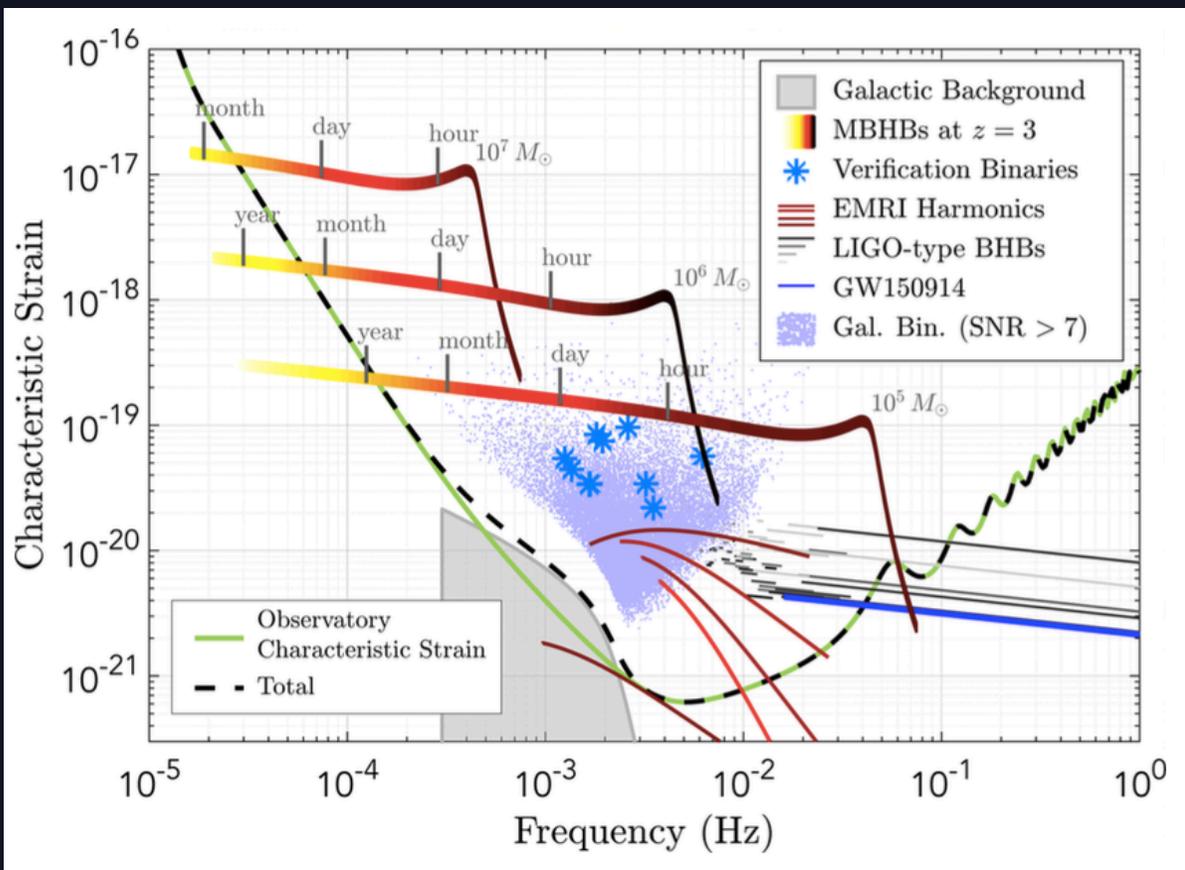


Figure courtesy Monica Colpi